AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of determining the status of a vehicle undergoing repair comprising ~~the steps of~~:

maintaining a computer database containing a vehicle identifier for a vehicle undergoing repair and repair status information for the vehicle undergoing repair, the vehicle identifier comprising a vehicle identification number or a bar code;

periodically updating the repair status information on the database by electronically transferring data on the status of the vehicle undergoing repair to the computer database;

transferring the updated database information to a remote location;

searching the information at the remote location ~~computer database~~ to locate the vehicle undergoing repair; and

identifying data on the status of the vehicle undergoing repair.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising electronically transferring the identified data to a~~ wherein the remote location is a database accessible through a website.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 3 further comprising electronically requesting the status of the vehicle prior to said searching step.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein said searching and identifying steps are performed on a computer network.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 5, wherein the computer database is maintained on a global computer communications network.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said transferring step comprises entering the status data on the vehicle status into a data transfer device and transferring the status data from the data transfer device to the computer database.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the data transfer device is portable.

Claims 9 and 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the status data includes information selected from the group consisting of: (i) cost estimate completed, (ii) repair authorized by owner, (iii) insurance approved, (iv) parts ordered, (v) parts received, (vi) vehicle scheduled for repair, (vii) vehicle disassembled, (viii) supplemental damage report written, (ix) repair of supplemental damage approved by insurance, (x) additional parts ordered, (xi) vehicle set up on repair equipment, (xii) structure and body repaired, (xiii) panels installed, (xiv) corrosion protection applied, (xv) metal work completed, (xvi) vehicle primed for painting, (xvii) vehicle painted, (xviii) vehicle cleaned, (xix) vehicle refinished, and (xx) repair completed.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 11, wherein the vehicle undergoes repair steps corresponding to each of the information items (i)-(xx) of claim 11.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 12, wherein said repair steps are performed in the order of the information items (i)-(xx) listed in claim 11.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 12, wherein the status of the vehicle is provided to the owner of the vehicle following at least one of repair steps (v), (x) and (xv).

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14, wherein the status of the vehicle is automatically provided to the owner of the vehicle.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of tracking the repair process of a vehicle that is in a repair shop comprising ~~the steps of~~:

periodically electronically transferring data on the status of a plurality of vehicles undergoing repair to a database on a computer;

determining the length of time that the status data for each vehicle remains unchanged via software on the computer;

identifying a vehicle for which the status data is unchanged beyond a predetermined length of time and identifying the unchanged status data; ~~and~~

determining the extent that the status data is unchanged beyond a predetermined length of time[[.]] <u>and</u>

<u>sorting the vehicles for which the status data is unchanged beyond a predetermined length of time by at least one vehicle identifier.</u>

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 16, wherein the status data is transferred daily.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 16, wherein the transferred status data is selected from the group consisting of: (i) cost estimate completed, (ii) repair authorized by owner, (iii) insurance approved, (iv) parts ordered, (v) parts received, (vi) vehicle scheduled for repair, (vii) vehicle disassembled, (viii) supplemental damage report written, (ix) repair of supplemental damage approved by insurance, (x) additional parts ordered, (xi) vehicle set up on repair equipment, (xii) structure and body repaired, (xiii) panels installed, (xiv) corrosion protection applied, (xv) metal work completed, (xvi) vehicle primed for painting, (xvii) vehicle painted, (xviii) vehicle cleaned, (xix) vehicle refinished, and (xx) repair completed.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 16, wherein said electronically transferring step comprises entering the status data into a data transfer device and transferring the data from the data transfer device to a computer.

Claim 20 (original). The method of claim 16, wherein the database stores an identifier for each vehicle, the identifier being selected from the group consisting of vehicle

make, vehicle model and vehicle year such that the software determines the extent that the status data for each identifier remains unchanged beyond a predetermined length of time.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A system for determining the status of a vehicle undergoing repair comprising:

a data transfer device for entering data on the status of a vehicle undergoing repair;

a computer database for tabulating status data entered in the data transfer device and transferred to said computer database, said status data comprising a vehicle identifier comprising a vehicle identification number or a bar code and repair status information for the vehicle undergoing repair;

means for periodically updating the repair status information on the database by electronically transferring data on the status of the vehicle undergoing repair to the computer database;

software for identifying a vehicle in said database and the corresponding data on the status of the vehicle; and

means for transferring the corresponding data to a remote location;

means for requesting the information from the remote location to locate the vehicle undergoing repair; and

means for identifying data on the status of the vehicle undergoing repair from the requested information.

Claim 22 (original): The system of claim 21, wherein said data transfer device for updating the repair status information is portable.

Claim 23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The system of claim 21, wherein said status data includes information selected from the group consisting of: (i) cost estimate completed, (ii) repair authorized by owner, (iii) insurance approved, (iv) parts ordered, (v) parts received, (vi) vehicle scheduled for repair, (vii) vehicle disassembled, (viii) supplemental damage report written, (ix) repair of supplemental damage approved by insurance, (x) additional parts ordered, (xi) vehicle set up on repair equipment, (xii) structure and body repaired, (xiii) panels installed, (xiv) corrosion protection applied, (xv) metal work completed, (xvi) vehicle

primed for painting, (xvii) vehicle painted, (xviii) vehicle cleaned, (xix) vehicle refinished, and
(xx) repair completed.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The system of claim 24, wherein the status
data corresponds to repair steps performed on the vehicle.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The system of claim 24, wherein the status
data corresponds to repair steps performed in the order listed in claim 24.

Claims 27-42 (cancelled).

Claim 43 (currently amended): A system of tracking the repair process of a
vehicle that is in a repair shop comprising:
　　　　means for electronically transferring data on a periodic basis on the status of
a plurality of vehicles undergoing repair to a database of a computer;
　　　　means for determining the length of time that the status data for each vehicle
remains unchanged via software on the computer;
　　　　means for identifying a vehicle for which the status data is unchanged beyond
a predetermined length of time and identifying the unchanged status data; and
　　　　means for determining the extent that the status data is unchanged beyond a
predetermined length of time; and
　　　　　　means for sorting the vehicles for which the status data is unchanged beyond
a predetermined length of time by at least one vehicle identifier.

Claim 44 (original): The system of claim 43, wherein the status data is
transferred daily.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 43, wherein the
transferred status data is selected from the group consisting of: (i) cost estimate completed,
(ii) repair authorized by owner, (iii) insurance approved, (iv) parts ordered, (v) parts received,
(vi) vehicle scheduled for repair, (vii) vehicle disassembled, (viii) supplemental damage
report written, (ix) repair of supplemental damage approved by insurance, (x) additional parts
ordered, (xi) vehicle set up on repair equipment, (xii) structure and body repaired, (xiii)
panels installed, (xiv) corrosion protection applied, (xv) metal work completed, (xvi) vehicle

primed for painting, (xvii) vehicle painted, (xviii) vehicle cleaned, (xix) vehicle refinished, and (xx) repair completed.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 43, wherein said means for electronically transferring is a portable data transfer device into which status data is entered and transferred to the database.

Claim 47 (original). The system of claim 43, wherein the database stores an identifier for each vehicle, the identifier being selected from the group consisting of vehicle make, vehicle model, and vehicle year such that the software determines the extent that the status data for each identifier remains unchanged beyond a predetermined length of time.